

# Association and Club Conference 2017 – Conference Notes

## Competition for the established orienteer

- 4 or 3 levels: only for folk who prefer 3 levels
  - Compass sport Cup/Trophy, also YBT now has shield (not on list)
  - So many reserved dates for competitions very little time for club events
  - Desire for weekend conjoined events 1 on Saturday 1 on Sunday (two clubs could combine)
  - JK & BOCs combined: 1 for 6 against
  - Major events: 7 agreed that we need an orienteer to administrate from year to year (like SOA)
  - Some months have restrictive permissions (e.g. ground nesting birds) so these months can get very busy
  - Weekend doubles: give it a whizzy name; level C afternoon sprint, level b on a good area on Sunday morning
  - Different formats like Micro-O encourage different audience also indoor events
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- Should we go back to a 3 tier Event Structure
  - Are there too many junior competitor relays?
  - As a middle of the road orienteer my attendance at major events is not in the hope of winning but to enjoy a good event on a good area
  - Competition for juniors is important but should be on a more local basis
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- Unnecessary comps: 'Midland' 'Northern' 'Southern' champs – why do we need this as well as regional championships? Or should they be level B? (instead of level A)
  - Named/big competitions can be a big draw for local orienteers to progress up their participation programme
  - Need to ask participants if they are motivated by competitions – e.g. for Southern Champs are Cornwall residents motivated to travel to Kent for Southern Champs?
  - Possibly too many events, not enough coaching - fewer events, more coaching days if competitive competitor will want to have the opportunity for coaching to improve rather than making mistakes each week. Norway has fewer events, has club coaching instead
  - 3 levels not 4 national, regional, local
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- Need to look at statistics for events where held as proportion of British Orienteering membership

- JK, British, Scottish all work

New formats:

- Local urban league
- Midweek events, particularly for newcomers
- Increased quality of local events

Unwanted:

- Association championships
- Harvester and Peter Palmer

Wanted:

- UKOL could be good but needs more promotion
- Need better clarification of levels

Undervalued:

- Those who don't win but are good at aspects. They could be recognised in different ways, e.g. fastest on the final leg, best hill climber.

- ❖ Travel distance to events?
- ❖ Activities with results = competitions
- ❖ Badge/other incentive schemes – which ones motivate? good for newcomers and juniors?
- ❖ Level B/C distinction blurred, e.g. pre-allocated start times
- ❖ Inter-club -format allowing meaningful large v small competition
- ❖ Winter evening sprints
- ❖ Multi-event trips
- ❖ Who undervalued?
- ❖ Forest specialists in ranking scheme?
- ❖ Volunteers including mappers when restricted from hosted events
- ❖ compensate through points/rewards schemes?
- ❖ Good quality urban juniors
- ❖ Juniors running TD5 but not scoring ranking points